

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 24, 2008, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

By this Response, claims 12-23 and 25-36 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. No new matter has been added and no new issues are raised which require further consideration and/or search. Accordingly, claims 1-23 and 25-36 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 12, and 23 are independent claims.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending rejections to the claims for the reasons discussed below.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejected claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Office Action alleged that it is not clear whether the position of error K1 is known from the beginning of the search process or a search has been performed to find the position of error bit K1 (See Office Action on page 2). Further, the Office Action alleged that the limitation, “the slipped block being another set of bits where each bit is shifted relatively to a

corresponding bit of the searching block" is vague and indefinite (See Office Action on page 2). Applicant respectfully traverses these claim rejections for at least the following reasons.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-11, in view of the teachings in the Specification, as described at least in paragraphs [0025] to [0033], particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention; and therefore, the claim recitations are clearly definite.

Applicant respectfully submits that the features recited in claim 1, at lines 4-5, are clearly definite in view of the teachings in the Specification at least in paragraphs [0026] and [0027].

Claim 1 is directed to a method for detecting an assumed octet slip in an inband signaling block in pulse code modulations. The method includes searching for a first error at a position bit K1 starting from an end of a searching block, whereby the searching block includes a set of bits.

As described in paragraphs [0026] and [0027] of the Specification, searching of the error bits is done by comparing the signaling block to a sample block (step 20). If no error bits are found in said searching, the block was correct and no further actions are needed (steps 21 and 22). Search can be made, for example, by performing XOR-operation to the signaling block with a sample block, so that in a result, the correct bits are set as zeros and the erroneous bits are set as ones. The error bits can be easily detected by hardware. Complexity of searching the first error bit is proportional to the

amount of bits before k1. If an error bit is found, the following step is to count the amount of errors in an adjacent block starting from the bit after k1 (step 23).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Figure 2B, which illustrates a flow chart of an example embodiment of the present invention, illustrates the step of finding k1 after a k1 search has been performed. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have understood that an error at a position bit k1 is determined based on a search having been performed to find the error, as defined at least by steps 20-22 of Figure 2B.

Furthermore, the features recited in claim 1, at lines 7-8, are clearly definite in view of the teachings in the Specification. The method described at lines 7-8 of claim 1 describes, “counting a number of bit errors starting from a *corresponding position k1 in a slipped block*, the slipped block being another set of bits where each bit is *shifted relatively to a corresponding bit* of the searching block.”

The Office Action alleged that “it appears that the searching block has been compared to the slipped block to find out that each bit is shifted relatively to a corresponding bit of the searching block, however in the specification the signaling block (which has been interpreted as the searching block in view of inconsistency between the language of the claim and the language of the invention’s disclosure) has been compared to a sampling block and not the adjacent block (slipped block)” (See Office Action on pages 2-3).

Applicant respectfully submits that the Office appears to misunderstand the features described in the invention's disclosure for certain embodiments of the invention. Figure 1 clearly illustrates that an objection of certain embodiments of the invention is to find different combinations of parts of a searching block and an adjacent block (block from +/- 1PCM sample position) and join them together to recover a message. Therefore, the claims recite features for an embodiment of the invention in which message bits are compared both the searching block and the slipped block. This is consistent with the language of the invention's disclosure, as described at least in paragraph [0027].

As described in paragraph [0027] of the Specification, step 23 includes counting an amount of errors in an *adjacent block* starting from *the bit after k1*. Hence, a number of bit errors are counted, whereby the count starts from a *corresponding position k1 in the adjacent block*, and therefore, each bit in the adjacent block is shifted relatively to a corresponding bit in the signaling block. Accordingly, the step of counting as recited in lines 7-8 of claim 1 is clearly definite in view of the teachings in the Specification at least in paragraph [0027].

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and respectfully submit that claims 1-11 are in condition for issuance.

The Office Action rejected claim 12-22 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Office Action

alleged that it is not clear whether the position of error K1 is known from the beginning of the search process or a search has been performed to find the position of error bit K1 (See Office Action on page 3). Further, the Office Action alleged that the limitation, “the slipped block being another set of bits where each bit is shifted relatively to a corresponding bit of the searching block” is vague and indefinite (See Office Action on page 3). Applicant respectfully traverses these claim rejections for at least the following reasons.

For similar reasons noted above for claims 1-11, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12-22, in view of the teachings in the Specification, as described at least in paragraphs [0025] to [0033], particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention; and therefore, the claim recitations are clearly definite.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 12-22 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and respectfully submit that claims 12-22 are in condition for issuance.

The Office Action rejected claims 23 and 25-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Office Action alleged that it is not clear whether the position of error K1 is known from the beginning of the search process or a search has been performed to find the position of error bit K1 (See Office Action on page 4). Further, the Office Action alleged that the limitation, “the slipped block being another set of bits where each bit is shifted relatively

to a corresponding bit of the searching block" is vague and indefinite (See Office Action on page 4). Applicant respectfully traverses these claim rejections for at least the following reasons.

For similar reasons noted above for claims 1-11 and 12-22, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 23 and 25-36, in view of the teachings in the Specification, as described at least in paragraphs [0025] to [0033], particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention; and therefore, the claim recitations are clearly definite.

The Office Action further alleged that claims 23 and 25-36 are incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships between the elements recited in claim 23. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 23 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention, rendering the rejections of claims 23 and 25-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly omitting essential structural cooperative relationships between the elements, moot.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 23 and 25-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and respectfully submits that claims 23 and 25-36 are now in condition for issuance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-23 and 25-36 particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention; and therefore, the claims

are definite. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that all cited references of record fail to disclose or suggest each and every element recited in claims 1-23 and 25-36; and therefore, claims 1-23 and 25-36 are in condition for issuance.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, Applicant's undersigned representative at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time
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